

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday, January 8 8:30 am Unhoused Communities  
 11:00 am Father Jayson Landeza  
 Saturday, January 14 4:00 pm The Palmeri Family  
 Lamar Larry†

**2023 MASS INTENTIONS**

The parish office is accepting Mass Intentions for 2023. If you would like to offer a Mass for the (Living) Intentions of your family/friends, or for your deceased family members/friends, please call the parish office at 510-632-1847. Donation for a Mass is \$10.00. Thank you.

**SICK MINISTRY**

If you know someone who is sick and is in need of prayers, please contact the church office (510) 632-1847.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, ESPECIALLY**

Eucharía Ajagu  
 Dino Blackburn  
 Louise Noriega  
 Monique Salgado  
 Rick Santi

Heidi Schmitt  
 Lottie Sonnier  
 Romel Tapscott  
 Geraldine Walker

Request for prayers will be listed in the bulletin for one month and extended upon request.

**SECOND COLLECTION**

Diocesan Seminarians

**ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?**

Please scan this QR code:



We are so BLESSED to have you visiting with us today and we hope that you've enjoyed Worshipping with us.

Please fill out the online form so that we can keep in touch with you and keep you informed of any upcoming events or information about St. Benedict. If you need to update your current information, you can fill out this form as well.

Please note that we respect your privacy. This information is ONLY for the St. Benedict Church Communications/Technology Committee.

**CHURCH SUPPORT**

Collection: January 1, 2023 **\$3,470.00**  
 Christmas **\$100.00**  
 Solemnity of Mary **\$660.00**  
 Other Collection: "100" Club **\$475.00**  
 Saint Vincent de Paul **\$110.00**

Thank You For Your Generosity

**PENNY HARVEST**

Please remember to bring your pennies and drop them off by the altar before or after Mass. There's no need to wrap your pennies in a roll.

**LECTORS/MINISTERS**

January 14/15, 2023

4:00 PM L. Palmeri 8:30 AM M. Trevigne 11:00 AM D. Cola



**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

David Krashna  
 CHAIR/FACILITATOR

Linda Palmeri  
 VICE CHAIR  
 ASSISTANT FACILITATOR

Dale Blake  
 MEETING RECORDER

**MEMBERS**

Ariana Catherine Dionne Cola Julie Hadnot Eirita Larry Romel Lucas Leonard Pete Alex Schmitt Chiquita Tuttle Ofelia Wanzo Regina Wilson-Henry



**CHOIR'S CORNER**

What's going on??  
 Interested in joining any of the Choirs?  
 Please feel free to contact

Leonard Pete  
 MUSIC DIRECTOR  
 510.917.2390

thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com



Like our page on Facebook! We're titled The VOICES of St. Benedict - Oakland, CA.



ARE YOU A FAN OF ST. BENEDICT? Well if you're a Facebook member, Like our Page! You can find us under the following title: Fans of St. Benedict Church Oakland, CA - Make sure that you like our page as well as spread the word to many of your family and friends. This is a great way to keep up with the latest News and Updates with St. Benedict Church.

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

As the people of God who are loved by the Father, being saved by the Son, and strengthened and endowed with the gifts of the Spirit for the service of the Lord, and all here at *St. Benedict*, we resolve in the spirit of Christian unity and cooperation to use our gifts and talents in building up the Kingdom of God in East Oakland

Mrs. Divina Cabrera  
 OFFICE MANAGER

Mr. Leonard Pete  
 MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ofelia Wanzo  
 CCD DIRECTOR

Mr. Jules Garibaldi  
 BUILDING MANAGER

Mr. Ron Tutson  
 DEACON

Ms. Dionne Cola  
 PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Rev. Paul Vassar  
 CLERGY SUPPORT

Rev. Vincent Cotter  
 IN RESIDENCE

Mr. David Krashna  
 PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Mrs. Sherril Gressel  
 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Miss Ariana Catherine  
 YOUTH MINISTER

**MASS TIMES**

SATURDAY.....4:00 pm  
 VIGIL MASS

SUNDAY .....8:30 am

..... 11:00 am  
 GOSPEL MASS

**CONFESSION**

BY APPOINTMENT  
 510-632-1847

**BAPTISM**

INSTRUCTION OF PARENTS REQUIRED

**MARRIAGE**

6 MONTHS ADVANCED NOTICE REQUIRED

**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services (CFCS):  
 HOLY SEPULCHRE, ST. MARY'S AND ST. JOSEPH CEMETERIES

Contact CFCS/Cooper's Chapel at  
 510.362.0424 or  
 www.cfcsoakland.org





## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



*Epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearance." In Greek mythology, this word describes the time when a god appeared among human beings. So it's appropriate that we use the term for Jesus' appearance in our world.*

*Matthew's Gospel is the only one containing the popular story about the wise men who follow the star to Bethlehem in search of a newborn king. Finding the house where Jesus and his parents are staying, they pay homage and give the child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The rich symbolism in the story deserves our close attention.*

***The Star:** ancient people believed a new star appeared in the sky each time a child was born. Consequently, when they spotted an extra bright star, they concluded someone important had been born, someone who would outshine everyone else. This was certainly true of Jesus.*

***Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh:** A loyal subject who had an audience with the king did not approach him empty-handed but brought gifts to show appreciation for receiving such a great honor. Failing to do so would've been a breach of etiquette. Because a gift should reflect the importance of the person who receives it, only the best and most expensive gifts (like gold, frankincense, and myrrh) were good enough for a king. Gold, the most precious of metals, was especially valuable because it was so rare. Frankincense and myrrh, on the other hand, were perfumes only the rich could afford because merchants had to import them from distant lands.*

***Bethlehem:** many Jewish people thought the Messiah would come from Bethlehem, the city King David came from, because the messiah was to be one of David's descendants. Like David, the messiah would be a military/political leader who would bring peace and prosperity.*

***The Wise Men:** The words "mag"i and "magician" ("one who has secret knowledge") both come from the Greek word **magoi**, a word that originally referred to the educated priestly class in Persia but later described any knowledgeable individual. Because magoi had nothing to do with royalty, we shouldn't call Jesus' visitors kings, but wise men. Being from the East (areas like Arabia and Mesopotamia), these men were not Jewish. Matthew carefully chose all these symbolic details to tell us Jesus was not just important individual, but it was also the messiah-king whom many of the Jews were eagerly awaiting. Including the Gentile visitors may have been Matthew's way of saying the messiah would be for all people, not just the Jews.*

*The three wise men gave the best gift they could possibly give to the child Jesus. If Jesus were born today, what gift would we bring?*

*We continue to mourn the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. He will forever be remembered as the first pope to resign from the papacy in 600 years, and the first German pope in over 1000 years. Throughout his papacy, I had a chance to observe Pope Benedict on numerous occasions, from this visit to Yankee Stadium on April 20th, 2008, as well during a portion of my sabbatical at the Vatican in 2010, when I was at the Pontifical North American College in Rome for four months. I participated in various Lenten and Triduum liturgies with Pope Benedict. May he rest in peace.*

*Again, much thanks to Leonard Pete and the choir for the beautiful music on Christmas Eve and Midnight Mass; much gratitude to Ofelia Wanzo and the liturgical environment ministry team for preparing the church for the Christmas Season and all-Year around; thanks to our liturgical ministers (lectors, eucharistic ministers ushers and altar servers); and to Wallita Sykes-Bush and our parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference for their incredible hard work and generosity to the needy in our community. I am grateful to the staff, and in a particular way to Fathers Paul Vassar and Vince Cotter for their clergy presence, not just during the liturgical seasons but throughout the year as well.*

*I know that this past year has been marked by my assignment as the new Pastor of Divine Mercy Parish, which is the combination of St. Lawrence O'Toole Church and St. Paschal Church. This has added more responsibilities to an already full plate. I am deeply saddened that this role has taken me away from St. Benedict, but I am profoundly grateful to Divina Cabrera, Dionne Cola, Leonard Pete, Jules Garibaldi and others who have truly taken on the leadership of St. Benedict as I focus my energy on stabilizing Divine Mercy Parish. I am their 4th Pastor/Parochial Administrator in five years, so I know that the parish needs my presence, for now.*

*In light of what I just shared in the previous paragraphs; I want to invite all of you to my formal installation as Pastor of Divine Mercy Parish. This is taking place next Saturday afternoon, January 14th, at the 5:30 PM Mass, at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church. There will be a reception in the downstairs gym. Jorge Watson will be spinning the tunes afterwards, and there should be something good to eat as well! All are welcome!*

*Next week we begin our Black History Month commemoration with our celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. May these next few weeks be a time of prayerful reflection as we begin this New Year!*

*God bless,  
Father Jayson*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ATTENTION!

**Due to health concerns, the cups of the Blood of Christ will not be available until further notice.**

### LECTOR TRAINING SESSION

Deacon Ron will lead a training session for Lectors on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. in St. Benedict Church. This training is for new Lectors, any inactive Lector who is considering returning to active service and active lectors who missed the training session held last September.

Also, anyone who is interested in serving the St. Benedict Parish in this ministry of proclaiming the Word of the Lord please attend. We need to increase the number of Lectors for all 3 Masses. If we increase our numbers, you would be scheduled for 1 Mass possibly every 5 to 6 weeks. Please consider making a commitment to our Parish Family by joining this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Grant at (510) 757-0224 or (510) 895-6573.

### SAVE THE DATE

St. Benedict's Mardi Gras Dance - our annual fundraising event takes place on Saturday, February 4, 2023, 6-10 pm at Fr. Jay Matthews Hall. Donation \$25.00, \$30.00 at the door. Food and drinks for purchase. Please no outside food and drinks. For more info, see any Mardi Gras Committee or text/call/email Leonard Pete 510-519-1913, StBenedictMardiGras@Gmail.com. Please mark your calendars.

### SUPERBOWL TV RAFFLE 2023

Presented by The Knights of St. Peter Claver, Fr. Jay Matthews Council #336, Sunday, February 5, 2023, immediately following 11:00am Mass at Fr. Jay Matthews Hall. For tickets: see any KPC336 member. Donation: \$4 per ticket or (3) tickets for \$10. This is for our Scholarship 2023 Funds.



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of

**JIMMIE THOMPSON**

Please remember her family in your prayers

### SYKES SIGHTS TRAVEL AND LEISURE

Planning a vacation for this holiday season, 2023, and beyond? Let Teresa Sykes of Sykes Sights Travel and Leisure be your new Travel Agent. Check out the exclusive deals and offers at [teresasykes.inteletravel.com](https://teresasykes.inteletravel.com). Any questions or inquiries please email Teresa at [sykessightstravelandleisure@gmail.com](mailto:sykessightstravelandleisure@gmail.com). A New Adventure Awaits!

### DO YOU OWN A BUSINESS?

Would you like to like to make a short announcement about your business or trade to the Church family? Maybe you would like to hold a workshop for anyone interested in a particular subject. Let us know. Leave a message with your name and phone number at 510 632-1847 or email [saintbenedictcrh@aol.com](mailto:saintbenedictcrh@aol.com).

### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

If anyone has an announcement to be published in our weekly parish bulletin, it is due to the parish office on Wednesdays before 4:00 pm. Please submit your announcement to the parish office at this email address: [saintbenedictcrh@aol.com](mailto:saintbenedictcrh@aol.com). Thank you.

### ATTENTION ST. BENEDICT PARISHIONERS! Important Information about St. Benedict's Electronic Newsletter

Have you been receiving emails from St. Benedict Parish? If not, we want to be sure we have your correct and current email address so that you don't miss out on current Parish news and activities. When you have a moment we'd appreciate your sending a quick email to [SaintBenedictCrh@aol.com](mailto:SaintBenedictCrh@aol.com) with your full name and email address. Also, be sure to check your SPAM folder just in case the messages have been going there instead of your INBOX. The St. Benedict Communications Team thanks you for your attention to this matter.

### HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR PARISH?

1. Online: [oakdiocese.org](https://oakdiocese.org)  
Click on giving then click on support your parish.
2. Mail: You can mail your envelopes to the Parish Office at 2245 - 82nd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605 or, if you prefer, we have a mailbox slot inside the porch to the right of the security door.
3. Bring contribution to Mass to be deposited into the collection baskets during the Offertory.